

## **Checkendon Parish Council**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Checkendon Parish Council held of 11th May 2009.

### **1. Present**

Mr D. Griggs, Mr. M. Wickens, Mrs D. Stanworth, and Mr. T. Corbishley  
Also Cllr. D. Nimmo Smith and 1 parishioner  
(part time)

### **2. Apologies**

Mr. A. Bennett and Miss K. Palmer-Stevens

### **3. Confirmation of the minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009**

These minutes were agreed and signed by the chairman.

### **4. Election of Chairman for 2009/10**

Mr Doug Griggs was proposed by Mr Wickens, seconded by Mr Corbishley and duly elected unopposed to the post of Chairman for 2009/10.

### **5. Election of Vice Chairman**

Mr Matthew Wickens was proposed by Mr Corbishley, seconded by Mrs Stanworth and duly elected unopposed to the post of Vice Chairman for 2009/10.

### **6. Responsibilities for Councillors for 2009/10**

- a. Planning – Mr Corbishley and Mr Wickens
- b. Public Transport Representative – Mr Michael Weller
- c. Playground -Mr Griggs, with Mr Corbishley helping with maintenance. 2 weekly checks – Alexa Wilson
- d. Responsible Financial Officer – Mrs C. Dunk
- e. Highways – Mr D. Griggs
- f. Footpaths – Mr. A. Bennett
- g. Checkendon School – Mr. Wickens
- h. Village Hall – Mrs D. Stanworth
- i. Local Age Concern Link Co-ordinator – Mrs M. Weller
- j. Recreation Ground - Mr. M. Wickens

### **7. Matters Arising from minutes**

#### **a. Backing Board for Bus Shelter**

This was now in place.

### **8. Report by Councillor Nimmo-Smith**

Cllr. Nimmo Smith stated that with the impending County Council Elections this session was beginning to be wrapped up and things were generally quiet at county level.

A report in the national press had stated that OCC had less insurance claims from pothole damage than any other county in the country.

Cllr. Nimmo Smith would ask engineers to assess whether a mirror would aid exiting from Deers Lane into Main Street or whether hedges needed to be cut back. Peter Ronald from OCC was currently looking into the narrowing of road when exiting the village near Rose Cottage to see if a priority system for traffic was required.

Mr Corbishley asked Cllr. Nimmo Smith to clarify if street lighting was a requirement for 20mph zone.

### **9. Report from Judith Nimmo Smith**

In her absence Mr Nimmo Smith reported that enforcement issues could be reported on line via SODC website. Clerk was aware of this and was infact the preferred option of enforcement officers.

Clerk asked if Councillor J. Nimmo Smith could investigate how rubbish was to be collected from children's playgrounds under the new contract. Clerk had phoned SODC who had not been able to respond and had failed to ring back. At the moment councillors place the sacks that line the bins on the kerbside for collection. It would appear unreasonable for them to take the waste home, sort it and use their personal facilities.

### **10. Sports Club Report**

Checkendon Football Club had survived the season and was despite their lack of success to continue next season. The reserves performance had improved towards the end of the season.

The Cricket Club had, started magnificently winning their first 7 games in a row. The new sight screen had improved visibility. Stan and Pearl Wilcox had generously donated a new high quality scoreboard.

Sport Club to organise the purchase of a bench in memory of Cliff Blackburn with equal contributions (minus vat) from parish council, sports club, village hall and Gwen Blackburn. To be placed in specially prepared viewing area near pavilion.

The poplar by picnic table required felling due to disease and would be done by Malcolm Russ.

### **11. Playground Report**

Alex Wilson had carried out the playground safety check. The squares under the swings were wobbly and may need attention. The bolts for the swings although loose were rusty and would not tighten. They appeared safe. The branches had been cut back that encroached playground. The broken seat on the picnic table would be removed.

Councillors agreed to remove the 20 trees that were overgrowing the playground and neighbouring properties and replace with beech hedging - Malcolm Russ to carry out work.

### **12. Footpath Report**

Nothing further to report

### **13. Village Hall Report**

The bluebell walk had raised £258 and was well attended. The Village Hall Quiz had also raised over £500. The next event was the weekend plant sale.

Work was nearing completion on the disabled facilities. Ramp was now in place and would be treated with tarmac. Tops were being made for the ramp rail and carpet tiles order. The disabled parking space had been marked out.

100 Club winner for April 1st prize £34 No.16 J. Slade 2nd prize £20 No. 80 D. Griggs,

100 Club winner for May 1st prize £34 No.16 43. C. Cox 2nd prize £20 No. 10 A. Beaton

### **14. Correspondence**

1. Checkendon School – appeal for donation for foundation block. £1000 agreed even though this was not in the budget it would be paid from the reserve.
2. OCC – Grass cutting grant of £1350.77 available
3. OCC – Local primary School review – Mr Wickens to attend if available
4. SODC – planning appeals from 6.4.09 – no new evidence to be allowed at appeal stage in event of a refusal of planning permission.
5. SODC – Banisters Exlade Street to be known as Banisters Farm

### **15. Finance**

#### **a. Cheques for payment**

The following cheques were agreed for payment:

30.3.09

0844 – Spoil

0845 Checkendon Village Hall  
Hire of hall and toilet cleaning  
£74.00

0846 Twyford Mower Services  
Gang mower service  
£614.66

0847 D. Griggs  
Reimbursement litter picker

11.5.09

0848 OALC  
Annual Subscription  
£126.26

0849 ORCC  
Annual membership  
£20.00

0850 Chiltern Society  
Annual subscription  
£25.00

0851 A. Kendall  
Reimbursement Domain name  
£27.60

0852 Allianz Insurance plc  
Annual premium  
£727.73

0853 M. Weller – History Society  
Donation towards printing Checkendon History Booklet  
£150.00

0854 CAB (Henley)  
Donation  
£50.00

0855 CAB (Didcot)  
Donation  
£50.00

0856 Woodcote Volunteers  
Donation  
£40.00

0857 Checkendon PCC  
Donation upkeep of church yard  
£500.00

0858 C. Dunk  
Salary  
£341.66

0859 Checkendon School  
Donation towards foundation classroom  
£1,000.00

0860 South and Vale Carers  
Donation  
£30.00

0861 Age Concern  
Donation  
£40.00

## **16. Planning**

The following applications had been withdrawn since the last meeting:

### P09/E0032/LB Chestnuts Checkendon

Internal alterations to existing garage to create living accommodation. Construction of new garage, and new glazed link between annexe and main house

### P09/E0013 Chestnuts (Houndcroft) Checkendon

Conversion of existing garage to create living accommodation. Construction of new garage, and new glazed link between annexe and main house. Alteration to vehicle access

The following applications had been received since the last meeting:

### P09/E0318/LB The Chestnuts (Houndcroft) Checkendon

Creation of accessible self contained accommodation for disabled person in existing garage and provision of replacement garage. Removal of unauthorised garden wall and the erection of a new garden wall between the proposed annexe and the main dwelling new door in place of window to the north east elevation of the main dwelling.

### P09/E0317 The Chestnuts (Houndcroft) Checkendon

Creation of accessible self contained accommodation for disabled person in existing garage and provision of replacement garage. Removal of unauthorised garden wall and the erection of a new garden wall between the proposed annexe and the main dwelling New door in place of window to the north east elevation of the main dwelling.

Parish Council to speak with planning officer and seek further clarification before a decision is made on the above application

### P09/E0359 Busgrove Wood Busgrove Lane

Construction of extension to house Indoor swimming pool  
Parish Council No Strong Views

### P09/E0151/RET Greengates Whitehall Lane Checkendon

Retention of external 7" diameter flue to northeast elevation  
Parish Council recommended for refusal

### P09/E0190 Holly Shaw Hook End Lane Checkendon

Single storey extension (resubmission of P08/E1354)  
Parish Council No strong Views  
SODC Granted

The following decisions had been received:

### P08/E1363 Checkendon C of E Aided Primary School Checkendon

Removal of existing timber store/resource room and the construction of a new foundation stage classroom unit  
SODC granted

### **17. Any other business**

The following items had been brought to the council's attention

1. Philips screw loose in the top of noticeboard causing top to warp – J. Rush to be asked to attend when he also varnishes noticeboard
2. Noticeboard needs re- varnishing – as above
3. Annual maintenance of village sign – Allum's to be asked what needs doing
4. Timetable case and flag pole Exlade St – would only be placed if requested by Exlade Street residents as felt that it was more street furniture in rural scene and bus was not used by residents (who would know times) or visitors
5. Hedges overgrowing footpath especially at No1 and No18 Emmens Close and the overall height of these hedges – Doug to take a look and then depending on ownership ask Soha or owner.
6. White van parks at No 8 on footpath – not pc matter unfortunately have no PCSO at the moment as Kathy Brooks is off sick for at least next 8 weeks. Have new PCSO starting end of June and this is a matter to raise with him to ask for considerate parking
7. Grass needs cutting Emmens Close – Malcolm Russ to be asked to cut earlier

### **18. Next meeting**

Meeting with parish councillors to approve accounts for year ending 31.3.09 Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 8pm Darent Beech Lane

Next Parish Council Meeting 6th July at 7.45pm